

REMARKS

These remarks are responsive to the Office Action dated September 26, 2001. Claims 1-46 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 12, 13, 23, 34, 38, 39, 41, 44, 45 and 46 have been amended. Consequently, claims 1-46 remain pending in the present application.

Amended Claims

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38, 44, 45 and 46 to clarify the present invention. In particular, claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38, and 44-46 have been amended to recite that each resume style defines “a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume” and that the plurality of formatting parameters includes “margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification.” Support for this amendment is found in the Specification at page 7, lines 1-5. Accordingly, no new matter has been presented.

Applicants have amended claims 2, 13, 39, 41, 44 and 45 to overcome the Examiner’s rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph. In particular, Applicants have amended claims 2, 13, 41, 44 and 45 to recite that steps (c)-(e) are repeated “until the user finalizes the resume file,” as opposed to “until the user is satisfied.” As for claim 39, Applicants have deleted the word “typical” to clarify the present invention, as recited in that claim. With those amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims satisfy the requirements under §112, 2nd paragraph.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-43 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over “Resumes.com” web site (www.wwwresumes.com) and “ResuMaker” online resume creation database (www.wwwresumes.com/resumaker/index.html). Claims 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by ResuMaker. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s rejection.

The present invention relates to creating a user customized resume web page using an online guided resume creation system, whereby the user can dynamically change the resume style with a single command. The style of a resume refers to its appearance, i.e. its look and feel. Each resume style projects a different “look and feel” by utilizing different formatting parameters, which include margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification. For instance, a “conservative” resume might utilize a conventional font type, such as *Courier* or *Times New Roman*, standard margin settings and uniform font size; whereas, a “contemporary” resume might utilize a modern font type, such as *Comic Sans MS*, various font sizes and nonstandard text justification. The present invention allows a user to compose the content of a resume and then to change the style of the resume on-the-fly merely by selecting a resume style from a plurality of resume styles.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the user is also allowed to customize a style by adjusting the settings of the formatting parameters. Thus, for instance, the user can change the font size or line spacing of the resume style, as well as bolding, underlining or italicizing headings and phrases.

In another embodiment of the present invention, delimiters are automatically provided in the resume depending on the information provided by the user. As is well known in the art, delimiters are shapes or punctuation marks (commas, semicolons) that separate distinct information packets. Each resume style has its style of defining its delimiters. The present invention stores the layouts of resumes in corresponding style sheets, including the position of each field in each section within the resume and the delimiters separating those fields. For each section, each field in the section is assigned a numerical value. During resume creation, the user enters data into relevant fields. Each style sheet includes a plurality of instruction blocks that

contain a series of case statement codes. Each case statement code is associated with a numerical value that dictates how the contents in each field will be presented and the position of the delimiters, if any. The sum of the numerical values for the fields which contain data entered by the user determines which case statement code to execute. In this manner, the present invention automatically provides delimiters depending on the data provided by the user.

Applicants respectfully submit that the online resume application at www.wwwresumes.com (referred to hereinafter as ResuMaker) fails to teach or suggest the present invention, as recited in independent claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38 and 44-46. ResuMaker creates an online resume for a user by guiding the user through a series of selection pages, into which the user enters data. The user is guided through nine selection pages.

On the first selection page, the user is asked to select colors for the resume's background and for hyperlinks, and to select a "Resume Body Layout." The Resume Body Layout defines how certain headings and sections in the *body of the resume* will be indented relative to one another. The Resume Body Layout selection defines the layout for each body section of the resume.

The second selection page permits the user to enter information for the resume header. In addition to entering contact information, the user may select a font type and color for the header and select from a plurality of header layout formats.

The third through eighth selection pages allow the user to enter resume information. Each selection page defines a "Category," six sub-categories, and six sub-subcategories. For each category, sub, or sub subcategory, the user must select a font type and font color.

The ninth and final selection page is for the resume's footer. Again, the user may enter information in the footer, and select a font type and color. This information will be centered on

the bottom of the user's resume.

In addition to the nine selection pages, ResuMaker includes a preview function which allows the user to view his or her resume at any time during the creation process. The user can navigate to any one of the nine selection pages to edit the resume contents or to modify a formatting selection.

ResuMaker fails to teach or suggest displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, where each one of the plurality of resume styles defines "a plurality of formatting parameters *for the entire online resume*," and prompting the user to "select *one resume style* from the plurality of resume styles," as recited in claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38, 44, 45, and 46. In the present invention, each resume style defines a different layout and font selection for the *entire online resume*. Generally, the layout is determined by spatial parameters, such as margin settings, text justification, and line spacing, while font selection includes font type, font size, and font formatting, e.g. underlining, italics, boldfacing. In the present invention, the user selects *one resume style* from the plurality of resume styles to apply to the information provided by the user. Thus, with one command, the user formats the style of her entire online resume. In turn, the user can change the format of the entire online resume by simply selecting a different resume style.

In contrast, ResuMaker divides the online resume into three segments: (1) the header; (2) the body; and (3) the footer. ResuMaker requires the user to define the style (format) of each segment in at least *three different pages*. For example, the style (layout and font selection) of the header is defined in the Header selection page, the body style is defined in the Body selection page (layout) and in each Category selection page (font type and color), and the footer style is defined in the Footer selection page. Unlike the present invention, ResuMaker *does not* permit the user to set the style (both layout and font selection) of the *entire* resume by simply choosing

one resume style. Instead, the user must go through *each* segment of the resume and define the style in a piecemeal fashion. In turn, the user must also go through *each* segment of the resume to *change* the style. The user cannot apply a style change, e.g. a different font type or color, globally without changing *each* segment individually.

Nothing in ResuMaker teaches or suggests allowing the user to select “one resume style from the plurality of resume styles” where each resume style defines the “formatting parameters for the *entire online resume*,” as recited in claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38, 44, 45, and 46. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38, 44, 45 and 46 are allowable over ResuMaker.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that ResuMaker fails to teach or suggest “automatically providing delimiters in an online resume” based on the information provided by the user, as recited in claim 34. As explained above, the present invention allows the user to enter data into a plurality of fields in a section of the resume. Each field is assigned a numerical value. The position in the resume of the data in each field and the placement of delimiters relative to the fields are determined by case statement codes. The particular case statement code executed corresponds to the sum of the numerical values of the fields that contain data. Thus, in the present invention, the user is not required to enter delimiters to separate information packets, e.g., separating a job title with the start date.

Nothing in ResuMaker teaches or suggests providing delimiters automatically to the online resume *based on the data entered by the user*. Nothing teaches or suggests “assigning a numerical value to each field,” “providing a plurality of case statement codes,” and “executing the case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields to determine . . . where the delimiters are placed relative to the fields,” as recited in claim 34. For instance, in

the Header selection page the user is requested to select a Header Layout. The “Streamline Header” includes a divider line (delimiter) between the user’s name and the address/phone number. Regardless of the information entered, the divider line *always* appears, either above the address/phone number or below the user’s name. If no information is entered, the divider line *still* appears. This clearly indicates that no “case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields” determines “*where the delimiters are placed* relative to the fields,” as recited in claim 34. If the opposite were true, i.e., a case statement code determines where delimiters are placed, the divider line *would not* appear if certain fields did not contain data.

In the office action, the Examiner asserts that

assigning numerical values to each field, and summing said values for determining field positions . . . would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of ResuMaker, because ResuMaker teaches various body layout styles. The preservation of customized appearances (of user data) in a resume suggests quantification of format data (i.e. number of indentations) by the system itself. Since case statement code (case statements) are well known decision data structures, it is also known that case statements rely upon numbers (ie. Enumerated variables) in the decision process, providing the advantage of a reliable code method of preserving customized layout appearances.

Applicants respectfully submit that while case statement codes are a well known computer data structure, the way in which the present invention determines *which* case statement code to execute would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill. In the present invention, the “case statement code corresponding to the *sum value* of the combination of fields” that contain user data is executed. The fact that ResuMaker allows the user to choose from a plurality of body layout styles does not imply that each field is assigned a numerical value and that the “case statement code corresponding to the *sum value* of the combination of fields” that contain user data is executed. Nothing in ResuMaker teaches or suggests utilizing case statement codes in such a manner. Accordingly, for this additional reason, Applicants respectfully submit that claim

34 is allowable over ResuMaker.

Finally, ResuMaker fails to teach or suggest “a plurality of custom settings corresponding to the plurality of formatting parameters,” wherein the formatting parameters include “margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification,” and “allowing the user to adjust the plurality of custom settings associated with the resume style,” as recited in independent claim 38. As explained above, one embodiment of the present invention allows the user to customize a resume style by changing any one of the formatting parameters defined by the particular resume style. Thus, for example, if one particular resume style aligns the text of the resume on the left (left justification), the user can adjust the text justification to center justification by changing the custom setting associated with text justification. In a similar manner, the user can change the margin settings, font type and font size of the selected resume style.

In ResuMaker, the user is limited to the types of changes he or she can make, and those changes would be applicable only to the segments to which they have been applied, i.e., the user is not permitted to make global changes. Thus, for example, in the Body Layout and Header selection pages, while the user may select one of a plurality of layout formats for the body and header of the resume, the user *may not* adjust the margin settings in the selected layouts. In the Categories selection pages, while the user can change the font type and color, the user has no means to adjust font size and the user cannot apply a global change to *all* categories, i.e., the user must make her changes to each and every category, subcategory, and sub subcategory if she desires a uniform font type and color.

ResuMaker fails to teach or suggest resume styles “defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size and text justification,” whereby each resume style also

includes a “plurality of custom setting corresponding to the plurality of formatting parameters” and “the user [is allowed] to adjust the plurality of custom settings,” as recited in claim 38. Accordingly, for this additional reason, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 38 is allowable over ResuMaker.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38 and 44-46 are allowable over ResuMaker. Claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-33, 35-37, and 39-43 depend from claims 1, 12, 23, 34, and 38, respectively. Therefore, the arguments apply with full force to claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-33, 35-37, and 39-43. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-33, 35-37, and 39-43 are also allowable over ResuMaker.

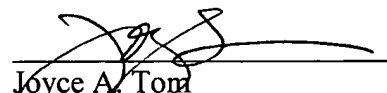
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims 1-46 are allowable over the cited reference and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections to the claims, as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes that this Application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Attached hereto and captioned “**Marked Version to Show Changes Made**” is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification, claims and abstract by the current amendment.

Respectfully submitted,


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MARKED VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, each one of the plurality of resume styles defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification and each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database;

b) collecting data from a user;

c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;

d) automatically creating a file from the user data;

e) applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file to transform the file into a resume file that is viewable online and printable.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user ~~is satisfied with~~ finalizes the resume file, thereby allowing the user to dynamically apply different styles to the resume file.

12. (Amended) A computer-readable medium for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system

comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the computer-readable medium comprising the instructions of:

- a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, each one of the plurality of resume styles defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification and each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database;
- b) collecting data from a user;
- c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;
- d) automatically creating a file from the user data;
- e) applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file to transform the file into a resume file in the selected resume style, whereby the resume file is viewable online and printable.

13. (Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 further comprising the instruction of:

- f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user ~~is satisfied with~~ finalizes the resume file.

23. (Amended) A system for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, comprising:

a plurality of style sheets for describing different resume styles, including positions within the

resume styles of fields of data from the database, wherein each resume style defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, and the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

a user interface for collecting information from a user and for allowing the user to select a resume style from a plurality of resume styles;

means for automatically creating a file from the user data;

means for transforming the file into a resume file by applying the style sheet corresponding to the user selected resume style to the file.

34. (Amended) A method for automatically providing delimiters in an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database including a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

assigning a numerical value to each field of the plurality of fields in the database;

providing a plurality of style sheets, each style sheet of the plurality of style sheets describing a different resume style, wherein each resume style defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, and the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

providing a plurality of case statement codes in each style sheet, wherein each case statement code represents a respective sum value of numerical values of a combination of fields associated with a section;

prompting the user to enter data into the plurality of fields;

determining the sum of the combination of fields associated with the section by adding the

numerical values assigned to the fields containing user data; and

executing the case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields to determine where the fields are positioned and where the delimiters are placed relative to the fields.

38. (Amended) A method for allowing a user to customize a style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, each one of the plurality of resume styles defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification and each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database;
- b) collecting data from a user;
- c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles, the resume style having a plurality of custom settings corresponding to the plurality of formatting parameters;
- d) allowing the user to adjust the plurality of custom settings associated with the selected resume style;
- e) automatically creating a file from the user data, the user selected resume style, and the adjusted plurality of custom settings;
- f) applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file, thereby transforming the file into a resume file that is viewable online and printable.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the allowing step (d) further comprises the steps of:

- d1) dividing the online resume into a plurality of common elements, the plurality of common elements being components of a ~~typical~~ resume; and
- d2) allowing the user to modify the appearance of a common element of the plurality of common elements.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 40 further comprising the step of:

- g) repeating steps (c) – (f) until the user ~~is satisfied with~~ finalizes the resume file.

4344. (Amended) A method for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, wherein each one of the plurality of resume styles defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, the plurality of formatting parameters including margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

- b) collecting data from a user;
- c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;
- d) automatically creating a file from the user data;
- e) transforming the file into a resume file formatted in the selected resume style that is viewable online and printable; and

f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user ~~is satisfied with~~finalizes the resume file, thereby allowing the user to dynamically apply different styles to the resume file.

4445. (Amended) A computer-readable medium for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the computer-readable medium comprising the instructions of:

a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, wherein each one of the plurality of resume styles defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, the plurality of formatting parameters including margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

b) collecting data from a user;

c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;

d) automatically creating a file from the user data;

e) transforming the file into a resume file formatted in the selected resume style, whereby the resume file is viewable online and printable; and

f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user ~~is satisfied with~~finalizes the resume file.

4546. (Amended) A system for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, comprising:

a user interface for collecting information from a user and for allowing the user to select a resume style from a plurality of resume styles, wherein each resume style defines a plurality of

formatting parameters for the entire online resume, the plurality of formatting parameters including margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

means for automatically creating a file from the user data;

means for transforming the file into a resume file ~~formatter~~formatted in the user selected resume style; and

means for allowing the user to reselect resume styles to apply to the resume file.